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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/708,824	03/26/2004	Blayn W. Beenau	60655.8500	2823

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, NAM V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2635

DATE MAILED: 11/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/708,824	Applicant(s) BEENAU ET AL.	
	Examiner Nam V. Nguyen	Art Unit 2635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/26/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/20/4/9/3/26/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The application of Beenau et al. for a "method for biometric security using a transponder-reader" filed March 26, 2004 has been examined.

This application is a CIP of 10/340,352 filed January 10, 2003, which is a CIP of 10/192,488 filed July 9, 2002, which claims the benefit of 60/304,216 filed July 10, 2001 and said 10/340,352 filed January 10, 2003, which is a CIP of 10/318,432 filed December 13, 2002 and is a CIP of 10/318,480 filed December 13, 2002, and is a CIP of 60/396,577 filed July 16, 2002.

Claims 1-10 are pending.

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Art Unit: 2635

The current abstract using phrase “the present invention” and “the invention” is implied and should be avoided. See MPEP 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, the phrase “detecting a proffered biometric at a sensor communicating with said system to obtain a proffered biometric sample” is confusing and unclear. It is not understood what is meant by such a limitation. Is a sensor detecting a proffered biometric sample? Is the sensor located in the transponder, in a reader or in a system? What is the difference between a proffered biometric and a proffered biometric sample? Where is this limitation supported by specification? Claims 2-10 are rejected for their dependence on Claim 1 and include the same limitations of Claim 1 without correcting the ambiguity.

In claim 3, the phrase “detecting includes at least one of: detecting, storing, and processing a proffered biometric sample” is confusing and unclear. It is not understood what is meant by such a limitation. What detecting means here? Where is this limitation supported by specification?

In claim 4, the phrase “detecting further includes receiving a finite number of proffered biometric samples during a transaction” is confusing and unclear. It is not understood what is meant by such a limitation. What detecting means here? What is a finite number? Where is this limitation supported by specification?

In claim 5, the phrase “wherein said step of detecting includes logging each proffered biometric sample” is confusing and unclear. It is not understood what is meant by such a limitation. What detecting means here? Where is this limitation supported by specification?

In claim 6, the phrase “wherein said step of detecting further includes at least one of detection, processing and storing at least one second proffered biometric sample” is confusing and unclear. It is not understood what is meant by such a limitation. What detecting means here? Where is this limitation supported by specification?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kita (US# 6,703,918).

Referring to claim 1, Kita discloses an authentication method as recited in claim 1. See Figures 1-30 and respective portions of the apparatus and method.

Kita discloses a method for facilitating biometric security in a transponder-reader transaction system (i.e. a portable information system) comprising:

detecting a proffered biometric (i.e. fingerprint) at a sensor (8) communicating with said system to obtain a proffered biometric sample (i.e. authentication data) (column 4 lines 20 to 59; column 10 line 62 to column 11 line 14; see Figures 1-3 and 10-11);

verifying the proffered biometric sample (i.e. authentication data) (column 4 line 60 to column 5 line 9; column 6 line 44 to column 7 line 28; column 11 lines 15 to 61; see Figures 3 and 6-7); and

authorizing a transaction upon verification of the proffered biometric sample (column 7 lines 28 to 67; column 11 lines 62 to 68; see Figures 6-7 and 10-11).

Referring to claim 2, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting further includes detecting a proffered biometric (i.e. a fingerprint) at a sensor (8) (i.e. a fingerprint sensor section) configured to communicate with said system (32) via at least one of a transponder (6) (i.e. a radio communication section) (column 4 line 20 to column 5 line 9; see Figures 1-3 and 10-11).

Referring to claim 3, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes at least one of: detecting, storing, and processing a proffered biometric sample (i.e. authentication data) (column 4 line 20 to column 5 line 9; see Figures 1-3 and 10-11).

Referring to claim 4, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting further includes receiving a finite number of proffered biometric samples during a transaction (column 4 line 20 to column 5 line 9; column 10 line 62 to column 11 line 61; see Figures 1-3 and 10-11).

Referring to claim 5, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting includes logging each proffered biometric sample (i.e. authentication data) (column 5 lines 55 to column 6 line 43; column 9 line 66 to column 10 line 13).

Referring to claim 6, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting further includes at least one of detection, processing and storing at least one second proffered biometric sample (i.e. authentication data) (column 9 line 66 to column 10 line 36).

Referring to claim 7, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying includes comparing a proffered biometric sample (i.e. inputted authentication data) with a stored biometric sample (i.e. organic authentication registration data registered in the organic authentication registration data unit 154) (column 11 line 42 to 61; see Figure 10).

Referring to claim 8, Kita discloses method of claim 7, wherein comparing a proffered biometric sample (i.e. inputted authentication data) with a stored biometric sample (i.e. organic authentication registration data) includes comparing a proffered biometric sample with at least one of a biometric sample of a transponder user (i.e. user of a portable information equipment 1) (column 11 line 42 to 61; see Figure 10).

Referring to claim 9, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying includes verifying a proffered biometric sample using information contained on at least one of a local database (i.e. an organic authentication registration data at the equipment 154) (column 11 line 42 to 61; see Figure 10).

Referring to claim 10, Kita discloses method of claim 1, wherein said step of verifying includes verifying a proffered biometric scan sample (i.e. inputted authentication data) using one of a protocol/sequence controller (152) (i.e. a control circuit) and a third-party security vendor (37) (i.e. service business) (column 5 line 40 to column 7 line 52; column 10 line 62 to column 11 line 67; see Figure 1-7 and 10-11).

Double Patenting

Claim 1 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/708,823. This is a provisional double patenting rejection since the conflicting claims have not yet been patented.

The subject matter claimed in the instant application is fully disclosed in the referenced copending application and would be covered by any patent granted on that copending application since the referenced copending application and the instant application are claiming common subject matter, as follows: detecting a proffered biometric at a sensor communicating with said system to obtain a proffered biometric sample; verifying the proffered biometric sample; authorizing a transaction upon verification of the proffered biometric sample.

Furthermore, there is no apparent reason why applicant would be prevented from presenting claim corresponding to those of the instant application in the other copending application. See *In re Schneller*, 397 F.2d 350, 158 USPQ 210 (CCPA 1968). See also MPEP § 804.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kinsella (US# 6,914,517) disclose a fingerprint sensor with feature authentication.

Hamid et al. (US# 6,877,097) disclose a security access method and apparatus.

Glass et al. (US# 6,332,193) disclose a method and apparatus for security transmitting and authenticating biometric data over a network.

Black (US# 6,307,956) discloses a writing implement for identity verification system.

Pare, Jr. et al. (US# 6,154,879) disclose a tokenless biometric ATM access system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nam V Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3061. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Horabik can be reached on 571-272-3068. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nam Nguyen
November 19, 2005



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